

Business &  
Technology  
Strategies

# TechUpdate

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## Community Storage Initiative Forum to Discuss Beneficial Electrification: July 18-19

The NRECA-supported Community Storage Initiative (CSI) is seeking input from members on the prospect of evolving our existing CSI efforts to better incorporate the broader "Beneficial Electrification" opportunity during a forum on July 18-19 in Arlington, VA. Members are invited to join us for a day and a half meeting to help shape the CSI initiative moving forward in light of advancements in electric technologies that continue to create new opportunities for the wise use of electricity, or *Beneficial Electrification*. A related advisory on Beneficial Electrification for All Income Levels is available now online:

- [Registration](#)
- [Related Advisory: Beneficial Electrification for All Income Levels](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Keith Dennis](#)

## Battery Energy Storage Assessment - Cooperative Viewpoint

Battery energy storage can be used for a variety of applications and provide various benefits to the co-ops, consumers, and other industry stakeholders. This new report by NRECA, in conjunction with CFC, CoBank, and NRTC, reviews two principal technologies that are the leading battery energy storage deployment - lithium-ion and flow batteries - and provides co-op case studies on battery energy storage application.

- [Report](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Jan Ahlen](#)

## Rethinking Passwords

The increasing reliance on data-based knowledge and information driven technology has led to exponential growth in the amount of data created in our daily transactions. One of the easiest ways to secure data is with the use of a password. This advisory reviews different approaches to creating and storing passwords, to protect personal and organization data.

- [Advisory](#)

### UPCOMING EVENTS

[Community Storage Initiative Forum to Discuss Beneficial Electrification](#) – July 18-19, Arlington, VA

[Electrification 2018](#) – August 20-23, Long Beach, CA

[RC3 Cybersecurity Summit and Course](#) – November 13-14, Sandia National Laboratory, Albuquerque, NM (*Save the Date; Registration to open in August*)

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- Contact for Questions: [Adaora Ifebigh](#)

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## Electric Trucking Approaches Reality

Electric trucking has the potential to have significant impact for electric cooperatives. Daimler and Tesla have recently announced all electric trucks for late 2018 and 2019, respectively. This advisory reviews these developments as electric trucking becomes closer to reality.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Brian Sloboda](#)

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## Energy Management Systems Offer Many Benefits

Energy Management Systems (EMS) bundle sensors, controllers, and energy-consuming equipment under the control of a central operating system. These systems not only reduce overall energy expenditures and peak demand charges, but are also powerful tools to help co-op members track corporate carbon and climate goals, and to achieve ISO 50001 certification. This new TechSurveillance article details several easy exercises that an account executive or other co-op staffer can go through with a member to make sure a EMS is operating effectively.

- [Article](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Brian Sloboda](#)

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## Distribution Reliability Benchmarking Tool

Join over 100 cooperatives who are using an online web app to calculate SAIDI automatically and accurately without using other complicated and expensive methods. The Reliability Benchmarking Group web app can track and analyze the outage data, benchmark cooperatives with each other nationwide, and provide real-time data through special tools in the program. Find out more and sign-up on [cooperative.com](#).

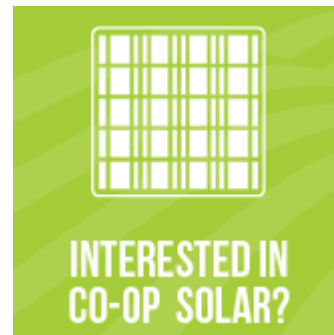
- [More Information and Sign-up](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Tony Thomas](#)

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## Co-ops Increase Investment in System Maintenance to Promote Reliability

An analysis of the most recent data by NRECA's Business and Technology Strategies team shows that co-ops are making significant investments in system reliability to meet the demands of their consumers for affordable and reliable electricity. Over a 5-year period examined, the annual rate of growth in reliability spending was nearly 3 percent, while the rate of inflation was around 1 percent. This new advisory reviews these research findings about co-ops' commitment to protecting critical infrastructure.

- [Advisory](#)



- Contact for Questions: [Madelyn Roche](#)

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## NEETRAC July Newsletter Now Available to NRECA Members

NRECA has an established membership with the National Electric Energy Testing Research and Applications Center ([NEETRAC](#)), allowing our members to benefit from this organization's research and reporting. NEETRAC is a center within the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering at Georgia Tech that aims to help the electric utility industry solve the everyday problems associated with the complex task of transmitting and distributing electric energy reliably and efficiently. Their latest quarterly newsletter is available on NRECA's cooperative.com.

- [NEETRAC July Newsletter](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Robert Harris](#)

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## Ways to Support Electric Vehicles Adoption

Electric vehicle (EV) sales for light-duty vehicles is expected to increase significantly over the next decade. We have two new TechSurveillance articles detailing possible programs that co-ops could explore to support the availability of electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE), and rate options that support EV adoption.

- [Electric Vehicle Service Equipment Programs](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Brian Sloboda](#)
- [Rate Options to Support EV Adoption](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Allison Hamilton](#)

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## Co-ops' Important Role in Serving Persistent Poverty Counties

The U.S. Treasury Community Development Financial Institutions Fund (CDFI) recently released an updated list of the nation's Persistent Poverty Counties (PPCs). This new advisory reviews the data and the impact on cooperatives, who provide electric service in 92 percent of the PPCs.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Michael Leitman](#)

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## Updates on IEEE Standard for DER Interconnections

The IEEE 1547 standard deals exclusively with the requirements for interconnecting distributed energy resources (DER) with electric power systems. Earlier this year, updates and revisions to the original 2003 standard were finalized and published in IEEE 1547-2018. This new advisory reviews the extent of the changes made and their impact on cooperatives.

- [Advisory](#)

- Contact for Questions: [Robert Harris](#)

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## Zero Net Energy Buildings

“Zero net energy” buildings use as much energy as they produce onsite, and have gained a considerable amount of popularity in recent years from their purported environmental and economic benefits. But, simple kWh netting across 24 hours does not address the true impact and value of production and consumption offsetting. NRECA and the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) commissioned The Brattle Group to examine the real benefits of ZNE homes with onsite solar compared to the benefits of powering energy efficient homes with a community solar installation. This new advisory explains the research, and its conclusion that community solar can be the most efficient way to integrate renewable energy on a larger scale and add value to the ZNE debate.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Keith Dennis](#)

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## Distribution Operations Online Courses Available to Members at Discount

There is continued emphasis in optimizing how electric distribution systems are designed and operated. As part of a variety of efforts by NRECA to support co-op access to educational opportunities for the next generation of engineers, we have partnered with one of our Associate Members, SOS Intl, a leading training provider for electric utilities, to offer our distribution and G&T members access to online computer-based self-paced training courses at an NRECA negotiated discounted price. This advisory provides details on this opportunity.

- [Advisory](#)
- Contact for Questions: [Patti Metro](#)

[www.cooperative.com](http://www.cooperative.com)

This is a promotion from the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association  
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